Statement

Number of Licences Issued State Wise

Name of the State	No. of Licences
Andhra Pradesh	1965
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	24
Assam	18
Arunachal Pradesh	2
Bihar	146
Delhi	783
Gujarat	430
Haryana	122
Himachal Pradesh	18
Jammu & Kashmir	7
Karnataka	2313
Kerala	1826
Madhya Pradesh	240
Maharashtra	1251
Goa	22
Manipur	0
Meghalaya	14
Mizoram	2
Nagaland	2
Orissa	42
Punjab	62
Rajasthan	107
Sikkim	13
Tamil Nadu	3466
Tripura	2
Uttar Pradesh	387
West Bengal	475
TOTAL:	13739

Rehabilitation of Unemployed Textile Workers

*513. SHRI RAMJI LAL:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills that have faced closure and the number of workers rendered unemployed in private and public sector, separately, as a result thereof since the inception of TWRF; year-wise, State-wise and region-wise; and

(b) the details of rehabilitation/relief schemes implemented by Government for such workers in public and private sector separately, during this period and the amount spent year-wise, scheme-wise and region-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As on 30.4.98 223 cotton/man-made fibre textile mill (non-SSI) were lying closed for reasons such as financial difficulties strikes/labour problems, lock-outs etc. However, no cotton/man-made fibre textile (Non-SSI) mill was closed under the Industrial Disputes Act in the country as on that date. The number of workers affected due to closure of mills was 2,63,901 Year-wise and State-wise information in this regard is given in Annexture-I attached. (*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 95).

(b) The Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) is in operation to provide interim relief to workers rendered jobless as a consequence of permanent closure of textile units/mills, or in respect of cases of partial closure of units, on a case to case basis. Since its inception, benefits under the Scheme have been extended to the mills in the private sector only. The details of relief provided under the TWRFS year-wise and State-wise are indicated in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

In addition, relief is also available to workers of closed undertakings under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Assistance from the National Renewal Fund is available for Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Central Public sector enterprises and for schemes for counselling, retraining and redeployment of rationalised workers.

उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए संसदीय दल भेजा जाना

*514. श्री राज बब्बर: क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिमी बंगाल में कानून और व्यवस्था की स्थिति की जांच के लिए वहां एक केन्द्रीय दल भेजा गया था;

(ख) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश में कानून और व्यवस्था की स्थिति की जांच के लिए वहां कोई संसदीय दल भेजेगी; और

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश में हो रहे अपराधों का केन्द्रीय सरकार पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ता है?

गृह मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) पंचायती चुनावों के दौरान जनता के कुछेक वर्गों के विरुद्ध किए गए अपराध के विशिष्ट मामलों की जांच करने और जनता में विश्वास की भावना पैदा करने के लिए राज्य सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों की जांच करने के लिए जून, 1998 में एक केन्द्रीय दल को पश्चिम बंगाल भेजा गया था।

(ख) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(ग) अपराधों की जांच करना और उन्हें रोकने की जिम्मेदारी अनिवार्य रूप से राज्य सरकारों की है। राज्य में हो रहे अपराधों और केन्द्र सरकार पर उसके प्रभाव के बीच कोई सीधा या आवश्यक संबंध नहीं दिखायी पड़ता है।

Privatisation of Generation and distribution of Electricity

*515. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to privatise the generation and distribution of electricity;

(b) if so, the response of the private sector thereto;

(c) the states where these have been privatised so far; and

(d) the policy of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM):(a) to (d) The existing policy of the Government permits private sector participation in the gneration and distribution of electricity. The response of the private generating companies has been quite encouraging with projects having been/being set up in different parts of the country. A number of states have proposed to set up generating companies in the private sector. The Central Electricity Authority has approved private generating power projects in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar.

Distribution of Electricity is the responsibility of the State Government and the private distribution companies operate in the states as licensees. The existing private licensee companies are operating in certain specified areas in the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Government of India is in favour of greater private participation in distribution so as to induct more resources into the Sector and improve the services to the consumers.

1984 Convention against torture and Inhuman punishment

*516. PROF. A. LAKSHMI SAGAR: SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime in December 1994, the National Human Rights Commission had suggested Government to accept the 1984 convention against torture and other inhuman and degrading treatment of punishment;

(b) if so, considering the fact that torture leading to deaths in judicial custody by investigating authorities has been on the increase, Government have considered the question of ratifying the international convention against torture with a view to bring about reforms in the system;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if answer to (b) is in negative, whether Government propose to consider the matter?